



Department of
Toxic Substances
Control

*Our mission is
to provide the
highest level of
safety, and to
protect public
health and the
environment
from toxic
harm.*



State of California



California
Environmental
Protection Agency

Fact Sheet #16, November 2008

Former Kaiser Steel Mill Facility Draft Remedial Action Plan and Draft Post-Closure Permit for 28 acres

*Para información en español por favor comuníquese
con Jeanne Garcia al número 1-818-717-6573*

We invite you to review and comment on a Draft Remedial Action Plan (Draft RAP) and related Post-Closure Permit for a 28-acre area of the former Kaiser Steel Mill facility. This area is located on the northern portion of the East Slag Pile and includes the Chemwest Upper Ponds (CWUP) / Consolidated Waste Cell (CWC), an area where former above-ground storage tanks (ASTs) were located, and two Chrome Ponds. This 28-acre area is referred to as the CCAC. The Draft RAP complies with the provisions of the 2000 Consent Order between DTSC and CCG Ontario, LLC, the owner of a portion of the former Kaiser Steel Mill facility, including the CCAC area (the "Property Owner"). The Draft RAP satisfies the requirements of Chapter 6.5 and 6.8 of Division 20 of California's Health and Safety Code (Chapters 6.5 and 6.8), and also incorporates federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) closure and post-closure standards that apply because units within the CCAC were regulated under RCRA. The CCAC is part of the larger East Slag Pile, a steep-sloped, flat-topped man-made hill. The area is located in a commercial/industrial area roughly bordered by Valley Boulevard to the south, a warehouse on the west, Mulberry Ditch to the east and San Bernardino Avenue to the north.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

November 25, 2008 through January 14, 2009

A public comment period will be held to comment on the Draft Remedial Action Plan (Draft RAP), Draft Post-Closure Permit, and a California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) proposed Negative Declaration for the CCAC as part of the ongoing cleanup of the former Kaiser Steel Mill. We invite you to submit your comments during this time. DTSC will consider your comments before making a final decision.

Public Hearing to be held on January 7, 2009

Josephine Knopf Senior Center, 8384 Cypress Avenue, Fontana

6:00 pm - 6:30 pm

Open House

6:30 pm

Presentation/Public Hearing

The open house will include displays and handouts. It is an opportunity to meet and discuss with the staff from our agency and the contractors who will be doing the work. The presentation will give more details on the project.

Meeting Accessibility

For information on accessibility and to request reasonable accommodations, contact Tim Chauvel (714) 484-5487 or (866) 495-5651 (toll free) at least one week before the meeting.



The CCAC was used to dispose of waste materials from the now-closed Kaiser Steel Mill. Studies of the area showed that petroleum hydrocarbons and metals are present. The Draft RAP provides for placing a cap over the entire CCAC area, groundwater monitoring, institutional controls, and long-term operation and maintenance (O&M) activities. The cap, groundwater monitoring, institutional controls, and O&M are intended to satisfy both Chapter 6.5 and 6.8 remediation requirements and RCRA closure and Post Closure requirements. The O&M Plan and the Post-Closure Permit are attached as appendices to the Draft RAP.



Map of the Kaiser Steel Plant Boundaries and the CCAC

Our agency is the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC). We serve as the lead agency in overseeing the investigation and cleanup of this site. Our goal is to protect the public health and the environment. Support agencies include the Integrated Waste Management Board, the Regional Water Quality Control Board, the Air Quality Management District, and the County of San Bernardino Department of Environmental Health. DTSC is also working with the Property Owner and its contractors.

History and operation of the CCAC

As part of the former Kaiser Steel Mill, which operated from 1942 to 1983, the East Slag Pile was mostly used to dispose of slag, a rock-like byproduct of iron and steel, largely composed of calcium oxide. The CWUP, which underlay the CWC, consisted of five ferrous chloride ponds used in conjunction with the ASTs in a flocculent production process that operated from 1972 to 1983. Following a removal action, the CWUP was designated as a Corrective Action Management Unit and then later was redesignated the Consolidated Waste Cell (CWC). Soils originating during redevelopment activities at other portions of the former steel mill were placed in the CWC. The Chrome Ponds were used for solar evaporation of rinse water from a chrome plating

process. The Chrome Ponds operated from 1975 to 1981.

RCRA Permitting status

The CWUP, ASTs, and Chrome Ponds are RCRA units with "interim status" authorization. The CCAC also includes areas that are not RCRA "interim status" units, and are subject to RCRA corrective action.

Proposed remedial options

The Draft RAP documents investigations and results, risk assessments, and an analysis and evaluation of remedial alternatives. Two options were considered for the site as follows:

Option 1: No Action

Option 2: Cap over the 28 acre CCAC (to State and RCRA standards) with deed restrictions, groundwater monitoring and long-term O&M activities

Option 2 was selected as the preferred remedy for the entire CCAC. The proposed cap will be placed over the top deck, side slopes and benches. The cap will consist of the following layers from the bottom up: a foundation layer at the base consisting of proof-rolled waste or soil; a 2-foot thick soil barrier layer with maximum permeability of 1×10^{-5} cm/sec of imported soil, a 60-mil linear low density polyethylene geomembrane, a geocomposite drainage layer, and a 2-foot protective soil cover. Initially, the protective soil cover will be vegetated. In the future, the surface above the cap may be used as a parking lot or for solar panels.

As a part of this project, a deed restriction will also be recorded which will prohibit disturbance of the cap, and prohibit the use of the Site for residential purposes, day care centers, long-term care hospitals, or public or private schools.

The groundwater monitoring system will consist of a minimum of two upgradient and three down gradient monitoring wells. The wells will be monitored quarterly for the Constituent of Concern (COC) list as described in the Draft RAP and in the Groundwater Remedial Investigation Work Plan. Permits for installing the wells will be obtained from the County of San Bernardino.

The maintenance and monitoring of the cap and groundwater monitoring system will be conducted in compliance with an Operation and Maintenance Plan (O & M Plan) and Post Closure Permit. O&M activities will include: cap inspection, condition of access control (fences and gates), condition of vegetation, erosion, cracking, slope stability, set-

tlement, soil moisture monitoring beneath the cap and groundwater monitoring. A Draft O & M Plan and Draft Post Closure Permit are included as appendices to the Draft RAP.

Closing the CCAC

The Draft RAP includes:

- Importing soil to construct the cap
- Installing the cap as described above
- Installing a groundwater monitoring system

Dealing with dust and traffic during construction

To protect the public from dust, the Draft RAP requires the Property Owner to:

- Lightly spray the soil with water to minimize dust
- Cover and secure stockpiles of clean soil and other construction materials, as necessary to minimize dust; and
- Cover soil delivery trucks with tarps

During the estimated 20-week construction period there may be as many 300 vehicles entering and leaving the site daily to deliver soil for the cover. A flagman will direct these trucks as they enter or exit the site to minimize traffic impacts.

An environmental assessment for the CCAC

To comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), DTSC prepared a Draft Initial Study to evaluate environmental impacts for the proposed project and determine whether the project will have significant adverse impacts on public health and the environment. A Draft Negative Declaration is proposed for the project. Comments on both documents will be accepted during the public comment period.

Incorporation of RCRA Requirements into Draft RAP

The sequence of events for incorporating the RCRA requirements into the RAP process will be as follows: Upon completion of the remedial activities, the Property Owner will submit a Remedial Action Closure Report documenting completion of the actions required in the RAP. Upon deciding that the remedial actions specified in

the RAP were satisfactorily completed, DTSC shall approve the Remedial Action Closure Report. Such approval of the Remedial Action Closure Report will indicate that both Chapter 6.8 and Chapter 6.5 remediation requirements as well as RCRA closure requirements have been satisfied for the CCAC. Upon approval of the Remedial Action Closure Report, DTSC will sign the Post-Closure Permit for the CCAC. The O & M Plan, which shall have provisions for modification, shall be incorporated into the Post-Closure Permit. In addition, upon approval of the Remedial Action Closure Report, DTSC will provide a 30-day notification to the public that it intends make a determination that RCRA corrective action is complete for the CCAC.

How to give us your comments

The public comment period begins on **November 25, 2008** and ends on **January 14, 2009**, during which time you can provide us with your comments and questions about the Draft Remedial Action Plan, Draft Post-Closure Permit, and proposed CEQA document. All comments must be postmarked or emailed by January 14, 2009, and sent to:

Tayseer Mahmoud, Project Manager
Department of Toxic Substances Control
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, California 90630
Email: tmahmoud@dtsc.ca.gov.

Oral comments will be taken at the public hearing on January 7, 2009 (see box on page 1).

Where to find Site related Documents

Copies of the Draft Remedial Action Plan, CEQA document, and other documents related to the site are available for your review at the following locations:

Lewis Library and Technology Center
8437 Sierra Avenue
Fontana, California 92335
Tel: 909-574-4500

Department of Toxic Substances Control
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, California 90630
Hours: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Please call (714) 484-5337 or (714) 484-5336 to make an appointment.

Also, visit DTSC's EnviroStor Website at:
<http://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/>

FOR MORE INFORMATION

If you have questions regarding the site and proposed activities, please contact either of these people at our agency:

Tayseer Mahmoud, Project Manager at
(714) 484-5419 or tmahmoud@dtsc.ca.gov

Tim Chauvel, Public Participation
Specialist, at (714) 484-5487 or
(866) 495-5651 (toll free)
tchauvel@dtsc.ca.gov

*For more information about DTSC, please visit
our website at www.dtsc.ca.gov*

MEDIA INQUIRIES

For media questions, please contact Jeanne Garcia, DTSC Public Information Officer at (818) 717-6573 or email: jgarcia1@dtsc.ca.gov

Notice to Hearing Impaired Individuals

You can get information by using the California Relay Service at 1-888-877-5378 (TDD). Ask to speak to Tim Chauvel, DTSC Public Participation Specialist at (714) 484-5487 or (866) 495-5651 (toll free).

CCAC
Former Kaiser Steel Mill Facility
Fontana, California

- *send us your comments*
- *be added to or taken off the mailing list*

☐ Please **add** me to the mailing list

☐ Please **delete** me from the mailing list

Name: _____

Organization (optional): _____

Address:

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone(optional): _____ Fax (optional): _____

Comments (attach additional pages if needed): _____

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Our mailings are used only for keeping you informed of our activities. We don't routinely release our mailing lists to outside parties. However, they are considered public records and, if requested, may be subject to release.



Tim Chauvel
Public Participation Specialist
Department of Toxic Substances Control
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630

***INSIDE:** Public comment period and hearing for the Draft Remedial Action Plan for the CCAC at the former Kaiser Steel Mill Facility*